

Message Text

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ACTION EUR-12

INFO OCT-01 IO-04 ISO-00 AGR-05 CEA-01 CIAE-00 COME-00

DODE-00 EB-04 FRB-01 H-01 INR-05 INT-05 L-01 LAB-01

NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 RSC-01 AID-05 CIEP-01 SS-15

STR-01 TAR-01 TRSE-00 USIA-06 PRS-01 SP-02 FEAE-00

OMB-01 SWF-01 /082 W

----- 103500

R 041405Z NOV 74

FM AMEMBASSY LONDON

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 5342

INFO AMEMBASSY BONN

AMEMBASSY BRUSSELS

AMEMBASSY COPENHAGEN

AMEMBASSY DUBLIN

AMEMBASSY LUXEMBOURG

AMEMBASSY PARIS

AMEMBASSY ROME

AMEMBASSY THE HAGUE

USMISSION EC BRUSSELS

USMISSION OECD PARIS

USMISSION GENEVA

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E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: ETRD, EEC

SUBJECT: EC-ACP NEGOTIATIONS

REF: (A) EC BRUSSELS 8136, (B) EC BRUSSELS 8393

1. ERIC WRIGHT (ASSISTANT SECRETARY, DEPARTMENT OF TRADE) HAS GIVEN US HIS ASSESSMENT OF THE TIMETABLE FOR THE COMPLETION OF THE EC-ACP NEGOTIATIONS.

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2. HE STRONGLY DOUBTS THAT THE NEW AGREEMENTS CAN BE

SIGNED IN DECEMBER. IN ADDITION TO THE UNRESOLVED ISSUES MENTIONED IN PARA 4, REF B, WRIGHT POINTED OUT THAT THE TWO SIDES ARE STILL FAR APART ON THE SIZE OF THE NEW EUROPEAN DEVELOPMENT FUND. THE COMMUNITY HAS ALSO NOT DECIDED HOW MEMBER STATE CONTRIBUTIONS TO THE FUND WILL BE ALLOCATED. (THE ALTERNATIVES ARE TO CONTINUE USING A SPECIAL BUDGET KEY, OR TO FINANCE THE FUND FROM THE COMMUNITY'S OVERALL BUDGET.) WRIGHT BELIEVES THAT IT WILL BE NECESSARY TO HOLD A NEGOTIATING SESSION AT MINISTERIAL LEVEL (SEE REF A) IN DECEMBER IN ORDER TO BREAK SOME OF THE MAJOR STALEMATES. EVEN THEN, HE CONSIDERS THAT THE TWO SIDES WILL BE LUCKY TO FINISH THE NEGOTIATIONS BY THE TIME THE PRESENT AGREEMENTS EXPIRE ON JANUARY 31.

3. ACCORDING TO WRIGHT, IT WILL THEN TAKE ABOUT SIX MONTHS FOR RATIFICATION PROCEDURES TO BE COMPLETED BEFORE THE NEW AGREEMENTS CAN ENTER INTO FORCE. A STATUS QUO ARRANGEMENT WILL BE WORKED OUT TO COVER THIS DELAY.

SOHM

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30 JUN 2005

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